

**MINUTES
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMITTEE
HELD AT CITY HALL
August 29, 2014
7:30 a.m.**

I. WELCOME

Chairman Olson called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

Chairman Olson welcomed Mike Goergen former Committee Chair and Tom Shirley, General Manager of Centennial Lakes Park. Shirley will act as the City Construction Manager and City Liaison for the remainder of the project.

II. ATTENDANCE

Answering roll call were Members Cardarelle, Christiaansen, Currie, Elliott, Kojetin, Olson, Reed, Schwartz, Shulstad

Members absent: Members Benson and Crain.

Staff in attendance: Scott Neal, City Manager; Kristin Aarsvold, Edina Parks & Recreation Department Supervisor; Tom Shirley, Centennial Lakes Park General Manager

Others in attendance: Dick Crockett, Edina Community Foundation; Mike Goergen, former Committee Chair

III. FUNDRAISING

Dick Crockett reported that before July 1, 60 people had donated to the memorial. After the July 1 fundraising letter was mailed, 217 people have donated. Crockett said that the Edina Community Foundation added staff to help process the checks as they were receiving 20-30 checks daily. Crockett will send a report to the committee members showing the budget. Crockett will continue to accept donations to assist with ongoing maintenance costs such as landscaping.

Scott Neal reported that in order to access the funds from the State of MN the city will first need to spend the \$225,000. Neal said the city will most likely authorize an internal loan from reserve funds to be reimbursed from the State of MN after the project has been completed. Neal stated the City Finance Department will manage the state grant.

Crockett mentioned that the committee should discuss how the 277 donors will be recognized such as an ad in the Sun Current. Crockett said the donors are currently recognized on the Edina Community Foundation website. Crockett said each individual receives a thank you note from the Edina Community Foundation.

Crockett also made the suggestion to rename Utley Park to Veterans Memorial Park.

IV. UPDATE ON MEMORIAL SCULPTURE

Member Reed reported that the sculpture components have been cast and they are working on the final wells and detailing. Member Reed and Member Elliot will coordinate with the Shoops on the installation and the granite monument. Member Reed said the sculpture is anticipated to be completed at the end of September and that Shoops would welcome committee members to see the sculpture at their foundry. Member Reed reported that since the sculpture will not be installed until spring Shoops is willing to store it over the winter. A final payment schedule was discussed with no action.

V. OVERALL DESIGN DISCUSSION

Member Elliot said he was happy with the outcome of the City Council approving the project to move into the construction phase. Member Elliot thanked the committee members for all their work over the years to bring the project to this phase. Member Elliot showed a sample of the Mesabi black granite mined in Minnesota which will be used for the granite monument to hold the sculpture. Member Schwartz inquired about the engraving process. Member Elliot said he has not gotten that far with the quotes still being decided. Chairman Olson suggested the Design Committee including Members Christiaansen, Reed, Benson, and Elliot discuss and bring their recommendations to the committee.

Member Elliot asked for committee input on the patio pavers. Member Schwartz made a motion to use only American made natural products. Member Currie seconded the motion.

Ayes: Reed, Olson, Elliot, Currie, Christiaansen, Cardarelle, Kojetin, Schwartz. Motion carried.

Member Elliot reported challenges in finding natural reddish toned patio pavers that are shown on the rendering of the plaza. Member Elliot suggested going with a two tone patio design using blue stone in a darker and lighter color. Members Kojetin, Reed, Cardarelle agreed with the suggestion.

Member Elliot provided a handout regarding signage at the memorial. Aarsvold suggested making the signage interactive utilizing technology like QR codes. Member Elliot suggested that the sentinels remain free of donor recognition and suggested that brass signage could be used.

Goergen said that there was good choice of words regarding recognizing the various levels of donors at Fox Meadow Park in Edina.

Chairman Olson mentioned that 19 people have given over \$1,000 who should be recognized. Chairman Olson said the Design Committee should come up with recommendations.

Member Elliot made a motion to recognize donors, committee members and others on the outside area of the memorial. Member Currie seconded the motion. Ayes: Elliot, Olson, Currie, Reed, Cardarelle, Christiansen, Schwartz. Motion carried.

Member Elliot recommended four quotes to be placed on the two sentinels, flag pole base, and backside of the granite monument.

VI. MARKETING

- A. Chairman Olson said he would be in touch with the Mayor to set a date for a groundbreaking event within the next few weeks. Aarsvold stated tSenator Franzen and Representative Erhardt should be invited. Aarsvold stated the Communications Department can assist with this event.
- B. Memorial Day 2015
Chairman Olson discussed a military leader and Mayor Hovland for potential speakers. Chairman Olson has been in touch with the John Phillip Sousa Memorial Band. No further discussion too place as Chairman Olson had to leave.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.